

REMARKS

This is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/901,687, filed on July 11, 2001, and allowed on August 27, 2003, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/184,656, filed on November 3, 1998, allowed April 4, 2001, and issued on September 4, 2001 as U.S. Patent No. 6,283,653 B1.

Claims 18-29 are being presented for examination on the merits. Claims 1-17 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter. Claims 18, 22, and 26 are the independent claims. Claims 18-29 have been added.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the above application are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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